

Theme Session R

Marine recreational fisheries: understanding impacts and consequences for management

Conveners:

Harry V. Strehlow, Germany (harry.strehlow@vti.bund.de)

Kieran Hyder, UK (kieran.hyder@cefas.co.uk)

Worldwide, marine recreational fishing is a high participation activity of large economic and social value. In some countries, time-series of catch estimates from marine recreational fishery surveys are included in stock assessments, and fishery management advice takes into account the relative impacts of commercial and recreational fisheries (e.g. USA, Australia). In Europe, recreational fishery surveys are a relatively recent introduction, and there is currently no established framework for how the emerging data sets can be used to develop management advice for stocks shared between commercial and recreational fishers. The surveys are often complex and use different national survey designs, posing challenges for combining national estimates and evaluating the quality of the final estimates.

The ICES ASC provides an opportunity to share experiences and approaches developed across the globe. This will verify the role of marine recreational fishing, identify how to incorporate recreational fishery survey data into the assessments to improve scientific advice, and explore different models for shared management of commercial and recreational fisheries, taking into account biological, economic, and social goals. Within this context, contributions are particularly invited on the following topics:

- Assessment of the cost-benefit of different recreational fishery survey methods, and approaches that allow the combination of recreational fishing data from different types of surveys;
- Case-studies showing how the quality of recreational fishery estimates (bias, precision) is affected by the design, implementation, and analysis of survey data;
- Methods for the inclusion of recreational fishing data in stock assessments, and the impacts of the data on estimates of stock trends and status;
- Case-studies showing the history of and lessons learned from monitoring recreational fisheries, working with stakeholders, and including recreational fishing data in assessment and management;
- Comparisons of the relative impacts on stocks and/or the relative economic benefits of the recreational and commercial fishery sectors;
- Existing and novel approaches to establishing management goals and methods for recreational fisheries, including stocks shared by commercial and recreational fishers.